

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Minutes of the 127th Meeting of the Committee held at 7 School Hill on Tuesday 24th October 2006

Present. Mr Bousfield, Mr Elliott, Mr Jones, Mr King, Mr Purcell, Mrs Rees and Mrs Stockley

Chairman for this Meeting: Mr Bousfield

1. Apologies for Absence. Mr Brand and Mr Knight
2. The agenda proposed by Mr Bousfield was approved
3. The Minutes of the 126th Meeting were approved after an amendment to minute 6.4
4. Treasurer's Report (Mrs Rees): The bank balance at the end of September was £419.21, as stated in the Society's audited annual accounts, which show a £3.18 excess of Expenditure over Income. Mrs Rees left the Meeting at 8 pm
5. Membership (Mr Jones): It was agreed that the best way to recruit new members was by the personal approach. The question of awarding a life membership to Mrs Dales was discussed
6. Planning Matters:

6.1 FoSAS Meeting: Mr Bousfield reported on items discussed (minutes are published on the Federation's web site), including:

- the possible construction of a reservoir north of Horsham
- concerns over an increase in the number of retrospective planning applications
- an apparent difficulty in being allowed to be represented legally at official hearings
- progress of the current Examination in Public of the HDCLDF proposals and clarification of their relationship to the General Development Framework Document. It was agreed that the Society should not comment on the latter

6.2 W. Sussex Waste & Minerals Development Framework Meetings (WMDF). Mr Bousfield reported on his attendance at a meeting on this subject and circulated related documents. Mr Bousfield pointed out the complexity of the process being followed and the tentative nature of the WSCC response to key concerns. He had pointed out that the rail line passing through Warnham could be an alternative to

road transport in bringing waste to a Warnham site for treatment. Points emerging from discussion included:

- the Society's involvement in the previous WSCC waste plan, which had been aborted
- the key issue for the Society is to respond actively to concrete proposals when the waste plan is implemented so that the interests of the Parish are protected
- the above points will determine the approach taken by Mr Purcell in his review of, and possible response to the WMDF on which comments are sought by WSCC

6.3 The Parish Plan: The text is being finalised, issues with HDC are being resolved. The guidance nature of Parish Plans was reiterated.

6.4 Local Issues: – brick wall on Friday St. property (previous minute 6.5). A planning application has been submitted - Cider Mill Farm. Decision awaited - Lower Chickens: Application rejected

7. Traffic Management Scheme (Mr Purcell): WSCC continues to work on the detailed design, from which has emerged a likely need for two additional street lights. Inappropriate traffic usage on Parish lanes is a generally accepted concern, the Society will remain active in seeking effective solutions

8. AGM & Autumn Meeting:

8.3 Pre-meeting Logistics

- agendas have been sent out to Members
- the Treasurer's Report (SR), the Committee's Report (BK) & the Minutes of the last AGM (GE), 40 copies, will be brought to the Meeting, collated and handed out as Members arrive
- Mr King will supply extra posters for Committee members to display
- determine Rosalie Batchelor's willingness to stand for Committee membership (MS)

8.4 Meeting Logistics: (Additional)

- presentation to MD (BK)
- photo of presentation (RJ)
- obtain keys and open hall (BK)

- vote of thanks to JL (BB)
- gift for JL (BB)
- lock hall & return keys (BK)
- take minutes (GE)
- arrive at 7.30, if possible, to set up the hall**

9. Review Of Current Responsibilities: Members indicated they were willing to continue making their current level of contribution and were not overloaded. Mr Elliott described the actions the Committee needs to take so that he can become an authorised signatory, including the appointment of a Secretary. It was agreed that this appointment would be considered with the assignment of other duties at the next meeting.

10. Spring Meeting. It was agreed that the Spring meeting would take place on Thursday 10th May 2007 in the Village Hall, when a talk will be given on

Horsham Stone & Sussex Marble by Mr Roger Birch, a local geologist of note Mr Hamer of the Warnham Historical Society is happy to make this a joint meeting of the two Societies on a cost-sharing basis. The question of a merger was raised, it was agreed to discuss this matter further at our next meeting. Mr Elliott will provide copies of the Constitution to help discussion

11. Presentation to Mrs Dales. Mr Elliott displayed the hand-coloured engraving, ca. 1860, of Warnham Court, which he had bought on behalf of Committee members for presentation to Mrs Dales at the AGM. The text of a citation was agreed, which will be attached to the print and signed by Members. Mr Elliott was thanked for securing such an appropriate gift

12. Any Other Business

12.1 Mr Purcell reported that he had reviewed a SEERA document on Gypsies and Travellers on behalf of the Committee who had concurred with his conclusion that the Society should not make a response, but should become actively interested if the implementation of future strategies which could impinge on the Parish

12.2 Mr Purcell put recent items of correspondence on circulation

13. Date & Venue of Next Meeting: Thursday 14th December 2006 at 7 School Hill, 715 for 7.30, Mr King will chair. Mr Purcell was thanked for his hospitality, as was Mr Bousfield for chairing the meeting